

DISPATCHER: O P I - DCI

TO: Director of Central Intelligence

13 January 1961

Subject: National Intelligence Survey Program - Joint Chiefs of Staff Requirements and Statement of Priorities

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH: The Deputy Director/Intelligence

SUBJECT: The National Intelligence Survey Program--
Joint Chiefs of Staff Requirements and
Statement of Priorities

ATTACHMENTS: Subject JCS Requirements and Priorities
with covering memorandum of 10 Jan 1961
from the Joint Staff Advisory Member of
the NIS Committee

1. The attachments confirm the need of the military establishment for early completion and accelerated maintenance of the bulk of the NIS program. They also reinforce the findings of previous surveys of the non-military requirements of the

Government for basic intelligence as produced under the NIS program.

2. By Enclosure "A" the military establishment, including all unified and specified commands and major components of the DOD, expresses a need for some 36% of all NIS production units world-wide which, if not satisfied, would seriously affect accomplishment of assigned intelligence collection, analysis, and dissemination missions. Of the remaining 14%, only a fraction of one percent is indicated as not required for military purposes.

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3. By Enclosure "B" the revised Joint Chiefs of Staff Priorities

for the NIS program FY 1962-1964 assign high priority to some 70% representing 24 world areas and reported by 300 NIS of NIS world areas, including, 17 African and 20 Latin American.

Production of the new NIS "B" program is progressing rapidly. The NIS production is being geared to these new priority areas as rapidly as possible. The development of new coverage areas is dependent upon as the agencies' capabilities permit. It is noteworthy that 20 of the 24 world areas assigned high priority in the former JCS Priorities have been raised to high priority in less than 3 years since the previous JCS Priorities were assigned. In these terms there remain few world areas or topics that can wisely be neglected by the NIS.

Enclosure "C" lists the responses to the Joint Staff questionnaire issued in January 1964. The responses submitted by the unified and specified commands specifically emphasize the need for early and rapid initial coverage of new areas and the need for more rapid initial coverage and maintenance of the NIS. Detailed recommendations for action are being evaluated. The comments of the various commands are being thoroughly evaluated by the NIS Committee in terms of across-the-board Intelligence Community considerations.

5. I understand that the attachments are being forwarded to the Intelligence Board by the Joint Staff members. This should provide the opportunity to re-affirm a continuing priority for the NIS program within the Intelligence Community consonant with the minimum JCS requirements of eight (8) equivalent NIS per annum, from which there is now a significant production shortfall.

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